ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

Sixty-Third Annual Session

—OF THE—

Union Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

Carrollton Baptist Church,

PICKENS COUNTY, ALA.,

COMMENCING AUGUST 30th, 1898.

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OFFICERS:

W. G. ROBERTSON, Moderator, - - Carrollton, Ala.
W. L. WHITE, Clerk, - - - - - Pickensville, Ala.

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The next Session of the Association will be held with Shiloh Church, Tuscaloosa County, Ala., beginning on Tuesday before the First Sunday in September, 1899, and continuing Three Days.

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CARROLLTON, ALA.
WEST ALABAMIAN PRINT.
1898.

Aug. 27

W. G. Robertson,
CARROLLTON, ALA

PROCEEDINGS.

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Carrollton Church, August 30th, 1898.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, W. G. Robertson, at 10 o'clock a. m.

Bro. W. L. White was appointed temporary clerk by delegates.

Bros. J. H. Stinson and E. M. Bealle were appointed to read the letters.

The churches were represented as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Bethlehem—Elder D. O. Baird, J. F. Hodge.
Fellowship—Elder G. W. Kerr.
Kennedy—By Letter.
Liberty—J. R. Wilkins, D. F. Harper.
Millport—J. S. King.
Mt. Pleasant—J. I. Free, J. L. Hall.
New Salem—Robt. Pearson, J. M. Pratt
Pleasant Grove—Not represented.
Spring Hill (Lamar)—Samuel Brewton.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Arbor Springs—J. T. Keating, W. K. Carpenter.
Big Creek—Elder H. B. Chappell, U. E. Allen, J. N. Mullins.
Cross Roads—W. W. McCulley.
Hebron—Joseph Burgess, J. M. Harper.
Hickory Grove—J. M. Gentry.
Mineral Springs—J. T. McShan.
McBee—Not represented.
Oak Ridge—Not represented.
Spring Hill (Pickens)—J. M. Lofton, T. P. Harper.
Union Center—J. A. Shepherd, Z. J. Hall.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Carrollton—M. L. Stansel, W. G. Robertson, J. W. Cox.
Ebenezer—J. A. McDaniel, A. I. Brown.
Enon—T. H. Sanders, C. W. Fort.

Mt. Zion—By Letter.
Pickensville—Elder W. L. White, J H. Stinson.
Prairie—W. C. Mayes, Grant Taylor, W. G. Goodwin.
Unity—W. P. Peden.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Beulah—H. S. Thornton.
Bethel—By Letter.
Cornelius Chapel—D. W. Hamner.
Chalcedony—L. C. Burroughs. T. N. Pate, J. T. Burroughs.
Flat Woods—W. H. Hughes.
Forest—M. C. Hudgins, J. M. Goodson.
Grant's Creek—E. M. Bealle.
New Hope—J. M. Smith, G. W. Pool.
Shiloh—Elders J. D. Hamner, J. D. Ray.
Zion—Elder T. K. Harrison.

The election of permanent officers resulted in the re-election of W. G. Robertson as Moderator, and W. L. White as Clerk and Treasurer.

The order of business reported by the Committee was adopted and subsequent proceedings conducted accordingly.

The introductory sermon was preached at 11 o'clock by Elder W. J. Beatty.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Bro. T. K. Harrison.

In behalf of the Association, the Moderator extended a cordial invitation to visiting brethren to occupy seats with us and to aid in the work of the Association

Correspondents were then called for, and the following were welcomed by the Moderator: Bro. W. C. Bledsoe, Corresponding Secretary of our State Board of Missions; Bro. J. A. Howard, representing the Alabama Baptist; Bro. W. L. White, Associational Representative of the Foreign Mission Board; messengers from associations as follows: J. H. Curry from the Tuscaloosa, J. W. and S. W. Caldwell from the Columbus and J. D. Cook from the Bibbee.

REPORT ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

We believe this work to be of vast importance to us as a denomination. The Bible, the only infallible guide to mankind, should be in every home; and that literature which is founded upon the same—which is indeed the only literature which can be

called Baptistic, should be distributed throughout the land. This is the great need of the age. The world should know, yes, we ourselves should know just what Baptists believe. Then we recommend that every pastor act as special colporteur in his respective field of labor, and that a small sum of $30 or $40 be raised by the churches of each pastor, whose duty it shall be to sell and distribute Bibles and other Baptist literature in his respective bounds, keeping the principal intact to be turned over to his successor.

H. B. Chappell, Sr., Chairman.

The report was discussed by H. B. Chappell, Sr., J. H. Curry, W. C. Bledsoe, G. W. Kerr, D. O. Baird and J. D. Cook, and then adopted.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee makes the following report:

At your last session the report on Sabbath Schools was not encouraging, but very significant; it represented the cause of. Sabbath Schools in our midst as languishing and almost dead. Only twenty per cent. of the membership of the churches composing this Association engaged in the Sabbath School work, indicating a spiritual drouth and destitution without excuse and without a parallel in the history of the Union Baptist Association. If the church has no spiritual life, and its members are not growing in grace and in the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus Christ, then as a natural consequence the Sabbath School, the prayer-meeting, the missionary society and every other church enterprise will cease to exist except in name. Sabbath School work is Christian work, and Christian work is the offspring of love to God and love to our fellow-man. Paul says the love of Christ constrains us to work for Him and the promotion of His cause. This great principle of love, underlying the Christian religion, constrains Christians to occupy every field of labor open to them. Why has the Sabbath School, from a very small beginning, developed into such a wonderful system and power for good, and today is keeping pace with civilization and the spread of the Gospel? Note the fact that Sabbath Schools are in operation in every civilized nation of the world. Recognized not only as the great auxiliary of the church, but as the great instrument in the hands of God of sowing in the minds of unconverted men and women the seeds of divine truth which, under the blessing of God, germinate and bring forth fruit to the honor and glory of His name. Why is all this? How do we account for the wonderful success of Sabbath Schools throughout the Christian world? It is because Sabbath School work is Christian work, and God always blesses His children and the work of their hands when in the performance of Christian duty. Our Heavenly Father marked out the road for His children to travel, and directly over this path hang innumerable blessings; but we must remember that these spiritual blessings are suspended over one path only and that is the path of Christian duty. The fact that God has blessed the Sabbath School in such a wonderful degree is evidence, strong and conclusive, that this is the field of work for every Christian believer, old and young, male and female, high and low, rich and poor. All are invited to come in and work while it is day, because the night of death soon cometh when no man can work. Life is short, time is fleeting and opportunities to do good in the world will soon pass away forever. What a fearful responsibility rests upon the Christian? Shall we continue this do-nothing policy, and suffer when we come to die

the terrible reflection that we have lived to no purpose; that we have not been workers in the vineyard of the Lord, but drones in the hive? Or shall we wake up to our duties and responsibilities and capabilities, and "glorify God in our bodies and spirits which are His" by faithful work in the Sabbath School cause. And when we are called hence let us die with the harness on, with the comfort and consolation that, under God, we have lived to some purpose, and we may say, as Paul did, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me in that day; and not to me only, but unto all them that love His appearing." In conclusion, we say that mission work is the grand object and purpose of the church here in the world. Under God, the Sabbath School has been blessed as a means by which and through which the principles of missions and the plan of missionary operations are successfully taught. The Sabbath School, next to the pulpit, is the place to teach all the great moral and religious truths of the Bible; the place where we can thoroughly inform ourselves respecting the principles and doctrines of the gospel we profess, thereby enabling us to comply with the injunction of the Apostle: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts and be ready always to give an answer to any man that asketh you, a reason for the faith that is in you, with meekness and fear." 1st Peter, 3:15. Many precious promises are laid down in God's word encouraging the Christian to work for the Master, one of which is as follows: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars forever and ever." That God's spirit may direct us respecting this important field of Christian labor, and that at the next meeting of this body we may receive a report of great things done in this line for the Master, is the prayer of your Committee.

JOHN H. STINSON, Chairman.

The report was discussed by H. B. Chappell, G. W. Kerr, J. H. Curry and W. L. White, and adopted.

Reports from the districts:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Held with Mt. Pleasant Church, beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1898.

The next session will be held with Bethlehem Church, beginning on Friday before the fifth Sunday in October, 1898.

Introductory sermon by Rev. O. E. Wooten; alternate, W. J. Beaty. Missionary sermon by Rev. D. O. Baird; G. W. Kerr, alternate.

Query 1st—What was the Apostolic doctrine that they continued steadfastly in? By O. E. Wooten.

Query 2nd—Why am I a Baptist? By W. J. Beatty.

Query 3rd—Is it desirable to have a Woman's Temperance Union in every community? By G. W. Kerr.

Query 4th—Is the Sabbath School a part of the evangelistic work? By Jas. B. Hodo.

Query 5th—Can the present system of co-operation in foreign fields be improved? By Dr. D. O. Baird.

Query 6th—To what extent should the church exert her influence to suppress existing evils? By J. A. Estes.

Missionary collection for state missions, $3.47.

Respectfully, JACKSON M. PRATT, Clerk.
JAS. B. HODO, Moderator.

SECOND DISTRICT.

The next session of the Second District is to convene with Hebron Church on Friday before the fifth Sunday in January, 1899.

Introductory sermon by Elder Hix B. Chappell; alternate, Elder G. W. Kerr.

Missionary sermon by Elder W. L. White; alternate. J. W. Caldwell.

Query 1st—Why am I a Baptist? Opened by Elder O. E. Wooten.

Query 2nd—What relation exists between a pastor and his church? Opened by J. A. Pearson.

Query 3rd—What is taught in 1st Peter, 1st chapter, 15th verse? Opened by R. J. O'Briant.

Query 4th—What are the duties of a church member? Opened by T. P. Harper.

Query 5th—Does repentance precede regeneration? Opened by Elder Hix B. Chappell. (On motion, this query was continued.)

J. A. PEARSON, Clerk.

The resolution submitted by this district as to changing the time of meeting to Friday before the fifth Sunday throughout the year, was referred to a special committee consisting of J. H. Stinson, J. D. Ray, H. B. Chappell and G. W. Kerr.

THIRD DISTRICT.

The next session will be held with Zion Church on Friday before the fourth Sunday in April, 1899.

Introductory sermon by Elder G. W. Kerr; alternate, W. P. Peden.

Missionary sermon by Elder W. L. White; alternate, Elder J. W. Caldwell.

Query 1st—What shall we do to increase the interest in our district meetings? Opened by Deacon W. G Robertson.

Query 2nd—What ought to be done with church members who do not attend conference meetings? Opened by Deacon W. C. Mayes.

Query 3rd—What effect does indiscretion of the laity have on Christianity? Opened by Bro. C. W. Fort.

Query 4th—In what respect am I my brother's keeper? Opened by Bro. E. D. Willett.

Query 5th—What does consecration to God and His service consist of?

Essay 1—Christian Benevolence. By Sister J. J. Ball.

We are sorry to report no missionary sermon, nor collection.

W. P. PEDEN, Clerk.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

The next session will be held wh Forest Church, beginning on Friday before the fifth Sabbath in July, 1899.

Introductory sermon by Elder J. D. Ray; alternate, J. D. Hamner.

Missionary sermon by Elder J. W. Caldwell; alternate, Elder J. L. Ray.

Query 1st—Do the Scriptures make it the duty of every church member to contribute to the support of the Gospel? If so, what should be done with a member who wilfully refuses to do so? Opened by Jas. M. Smith.

Query 2nd—Who is responsible for the cultivation of a mis-

sionary spirit in our churches and communities? Opened by I. Teer.

Query 3rd—What was the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and do we have it now? Opened by R. H. Foster.

Query 4th—What is the greatest duty a Christian parent owes to his family? Opened by G. W. Edwards.

Query 5th—Is it the duty of elder church members to push forward the young converts into Christian work? Opened by E. M. Beale.

The next meeting of the Association will be held with Shiloh church

J. P. Barnett, Moderator.
J. D. Ray, Clerk.

The Moderator read list of Temporary Committees:

TEMPORARY COMMITTEES.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons—Elder H. B. Chappell, T. P. Harper and C. W. Fort.

On Documents—Elder J. D. Ray, Z. J. Hall and J. A. Shepherd.

Nominations—U. E. Allen, E. M. Beale and J. M. Goodson.

Apportionment—J. T. McShan and H. S. Thornton.

Religious Exercises—Grant Taylor, J. M. Gentry, Robert Pearson and Pastor and Deacons of Carrollton Church.

Finance—J. H. Stinson and J. W. Cox.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion, Bro. J. H. Curry was requested to preach the doctrinal sermon on the third day of the Association.

Adjourned with prayer by Elder J. A. Howard.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9 A. M.

Moderator conducted devotional exercises. Prayer by Elder J. D. Cook.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We, your committee, submit the following report:

That we are keenly alive to the great importance of education and believe that institutions of learning of the right kind should be patronized and sustained. We are sensible of the distinction, however, between an education of the mind simply and an education of the mind and heart, and we recommend that only those schools and colleges be patronized which have for their aim the making of good and useful citizens and which inculcate in the heart and mind of the pupil the great principles of morality and religion.

We recommend the Howard and the Judson as worthy, and believe they should be patronized and sustained by our denomination.

We believe that, in these days of learning and progression, it is essential that we have a better educated ministry, and that our young men, who expect to make the preaching of the gospel their life work, should spare no effort in the fitting and preparing of themselves to the end that they may be the more efficient and useful in the service of the Master; and we strongly urge upon our churches the great necessity of aiding all such young men by their sympathy, prayers and money. The Howard College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., are our best institutions for the education and training of our ministry, and we urge that they receive our hearty support and liberal patronage.

M. B. Curry, Chairman.

The report was discussed by M. B. Curry, H. B. Chappell, J. A. Howard, W. L. White and J. H. Curry, and pending the discussion a motion was made to take a collection to assist in paying the debt of the Ministerial Board of Education, which resulted in the collection of $6.60.

Bro. J. D. Ray was continued as the beneficiary of this Association to Howard College, and the churches requested to take collections for ministerial education as early as practicable. The report was then adopted.

Mission reports were submitted as follows:

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

The work of State Missions is one of the gravest problems that confronts us as a denomination. The importance of the work cannot be over-estimated. The success of Home and Foreign Missions in a great measure depends upon the prosecution of State Missions. If we do not give the gospel to our own people and develop them in the grace of giving, all mission work will be a failure. Hence the wisdom of our fathers in establishing the State Board of Missions. The object of this Board is to give the gospel to weak points in city, town and country. For the successful prosecution of the work the Board employs missionary pastors in towns and cities and assists in paying their salaries until said churches become self-sustaining. In this way many of our strongest and most benevolent churches in the State have been helped. In our mining districts there are many foreigners, and it has been rightly said, "If we do not Christianize them they will heathenize us." In Florence, Montgomery, Huntsville, Birmingham and vicinity, and many other places in the State, the Board has done and is doing a great work.

Its work in the country is of no less importance. By the employment of district evangelists the Board is trying to strengthen weak churches and arouse pastors to a sense of duty.

While much has been done, there remains much yet to be done. There are many places now where the Board would like to do work, and would but for a want of funds. This is our Board and it is dependent upon the voluntary offerings of the churches for money, which many of them fail to give.

To carry on its work the Board has either wisely or unwisely incurred a considerable debt. At the last meeting of the State Convention a plan of retrenchment and reform was adopted which will greatly reduce expenses and enable the Board to lessen its debt. The Book Department has been disposed of, and the Board no longer acts as agent for Sunday School literature, Judson Institute, Howard College, the Orphans' Home, or Ministerial Education, but recommends that all moneys for these purposes be sent directly to their respective Boards. Expenses of the home office were also reduced, so that it is claimed a thousand dollars ($1,000) in all will be saved to the Board annually. It is to be hoped that we can go to the next Convention entirely free from debt.

While some mistakes have been made, yet on the whole under the wise leadership of our present efficient Corresponding Secretary, we have made great progress.

There is a tendency in many of our Associations to return to associational missions, but we would recommend that our Associ-

ation continue to co-operate with our State Board of Missions, and use every means in our power to get them to look after the destitution in our bounds. We would call special attention to the new towns being built on the Mobile & Ohio Railroad in Pickens county, and recommend that some action be taken by this Association to get the Board to take this work under special consideration.

We also recommend that pastors explain the object of State Missions to their respective churches and take regular collections therefor. W. L. White, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Home Missions is an important and growing subject in all the Christian churches. Opportunities for mission work are constantly being developed of an importance that were never presented before, and in many cases we must avail ourselves of them now or the opportunity is lost forever. A glorification over the results of mission work and the Christian enlightenment that grows out of it is hardly what we want on the present occasion. So I propose to address myself to the business phase of the subject.

The consummation of the Spanish war will bring into the political jurisdiction of our country in some shape or other several of the West India Islands, Cuba, Porto Rico and others, which contain numerous populous and important cities. These Islands belong to our Southern Home Mission Board, at the head of which is that great and good man, Dr. Tichenor, of Atlanta, and it behooves our denomination to enter most earnestly into the effort to aid him in the diffusion of a knowledge of our principles among these people, and to see to it that the Baptists assert their privileges there. Hereafter we will not be hampered by the petty restrictions with which Spanish law has curtailed the freedom of religious worship. Such an occasion and opportunity never were accorded to our church before to strengthen our stakes and lengthen our cords, and such rapid and vigorous work never before was demanded at our hands. Our Board will require increased contributions to meet the growing and pressing demands upon it, and surely the staunch Baptists of the Union Association will not be laggard or remiss in assisting the grand work which is being undertaken by the worthy men who have the management of our Board in hand. If we have not within our body a suitable organization to carry on this important work, we should at once consider the matter and provide the means of discharging this onerous and responsible obligation of our denomination.

Neglect of our duties along this line imposed by the command of the Master has tended to diminish the growth and prosperity of our church and given encouragement to greater effort by other denominations, some of whom threaten us with the engraftment upon our governmental system of an established National religion, which has found painful and menacing illustration in the divers essays on that subject that have been written and published in respectable magazines and reviews in these latter days by some of their votaries, with thousands of approving readers, proposing a union of Church and State so utterly at variance with the spirit and entente of our republican institutions.

M. L. Stansel, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Our Foreign Mission work is carried on under the guidance of a board or committee located at Richmond, Va., with Rev. R. J. Willingham as Corresponding Secretary. The fields of labor are

China, Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico and Japan. In these fields we have seventy-six missionaries against eighty of last year, and one hundred and seventeen native assistants against one hundred and ten of last year. Seven hundred and one baptisms are reported against six hundred and sixty of last year. The great debt which has o'ershadowed us has been removed, and instead of $13,532.79 debt over us as at the close of the last convention year, we had wiped that out, paid all expenses and were able to report $2,975.96 cash balance. This indeed is gratifying. Let us thank God and take courage, and never go to the convention again with a debt. The only way to prevent this is for the pastors to take collections regularly and be prompt in remitting them. We would request all our pastors to send to Bro. Willingham for mission literature and scatter the same among their people, thus educating them in the great and grand cause of Christianizing the world.

Respectfully submitted. JAS. D. RAY, Chairman.

Pending the discussion of the mission reports, Bro. W. C. Bledsoe preached the missionary sermon, from text in John 20:21. Collection for missions after sermon amounted to $10.22.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Rev. G. W. Kerr conducted devotional exercises.

The mission reports were taken up and discussed by W. C. Bledsoe, W. L. White, J. H. Curry, J. A. Howard, T. M. Pate, W. C. Mayes and J. D. Cook. Pending the discussion a motion was made to appropriate the morning's collection to State Missions. The reports were then adopted.

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

The Baptist Orphans' Home, located at Evergreen, Ala., was organized in 1893. Contains at the present time forty-nine children—eighteen boys and thirty-one girls. Since its foundation there have been gathered in ninety children in all. Homes by adoption have been found for twenty-two in good Christian families.

The original cost of the Home was $5,000.00 for eighty acres of land, with building containing ten rooms, to which has been added a brick building containing eleven rooms, costing $3,500.00, for which we owe a balance of $400.00. The Board is behind on current expenses $400 00. It is the desire of the Board to dedicate this property October 1st free from debt. There is no enterprise in which we are engaged that should excite the benevolent hearts of our Baptist brotherhood more than the care and training of the helpless orphan. Therefore we especially recommend that the churches make regular contributions to this most worthy cause.

Respectfully submitted. W. C. MAYES, Chairman.

After discussion by W. C. Mayes and W. L. White, report was adopted.

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 1ST.

Rev. J. D. Cook conducted devotional exercises.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your Committee report:

That in the providence of God we have lost one of our most loved and efficient ministers.

Milton Giles Lofton has been called from his labors on earth to "that rest which remaineth for the people of God." Brother Lofton was born July 19th, 1844. Married Miss M. A. Hanson August 25th, 1869. He professed faith in Christ and united with the Baptist Church of Christ at Unity on Saturday before the first Sabbath in May, 1867, and was baptized the next day by the pastor, Elder J. H. Cason. Brother Lofton was licensed to preach the gospel in December, 1867, was ordained a deacon of Unity Church June conference, 1867, was ordained to the full work of the ministry September, 1881, and departed this life November 13th, 1897.

We murmur not at the will of our Heavenly Father, but feel and mourn the loss of one who had just reached the meridian of his efficiency and usefulness. His churches have lost a faithful pastor and his congregations a truly sympathizing friend. Truly will his memory be enshrined upon our hearts. To his bereaved widow and children we extend our sympathy and condolence in this their great affliction. HIX B. CHAPPELL, Chairman.

In absence of report on Religious Literature, it was moved to adopt the report of last year. The report was amended by striking out the name of the State Mission Quarterly and inserting that of the Home Field, and also striking out the name of the Texas Baptist and Standard. The report as amended was adopted.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

There is no more potent instrument in shaping the character and destiny of the youth of our land than the reading of religious literature. We would most heartily recommend the careful and prayerful study of the Bible, for it is the best of classics; upon it are based all moral and social laws that are for the upbuilding of the world. We also desire that our State paper, The Alabama Baptist, should find its way into every home, because it is a Baptist paper and we should read it that our hearts may be brought into close touch with the doings of the Baptists of Alabama; that we may be in sympathy with the great interests of our denomination. We recommend the careful reading of the Foreign Mission Journal, the Home Field, in order that we may be brought into sympathy with the great cause of missions.

JAS. D. RAY, Chairman.

Bro. H. B. Chappell read the report on Temperance, which elicited lively discussion from H. B. Chappell, T. K. Harrison, Grant Taylor, J. D. Cook and W. L. White, and after being amended was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance report as follows:

We are sorry to believe that temperance has made no progress in our bounds for the last Associational year. There is no sin more blighting and degrading to the souls of men than intem-

perance. For not only do we see its effects upon manhood and boyhood, but their souls are being harvested in the drunkard's hell. Can we as Christians continue to remain indifferent and unconcerned in regard to this, the greatest of all evils? That honeyed word, "saloon," has caused more sorrow and grief than all the wars of the nineteenth century. With us this sin, intemperance, has caused more perjury than all other sins combined. Laws are ignored, and our penal code is a farce. The question is reduced to this—shall the world or the Church of Jesus Christ dominate? Can a child of God remain indifferent? Then let us align ourselves on the side of Him who, while on earth, "went about doing good." Let us be faithful in duty, leaving the results with Israel's God, whose right it is to rule and direct the destiny of man. And may His hand guide and direct us in the path of duty.

Respectfully submitted. Hix B. Chappell, Chairman.

Amendment.—We recommend to the churches to exclude from their membership anyone who signs a petition to sell whisky or other intoxicating liquor, or sells whisky, or sells or gives syrup of any kind, or grain, or anything else to be made into intoxicants, when it is known that said syrup, grain or anything else is to be used in making intoxicating liquors. We further recommend the exclusion of all who drink intoxicating liquors to excess.

Report on nominations was read by E. M. Bealle, and adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your Committee on Nominations, beg to report the following:

The next Introductory Sermon by Bro. J. D. Ray; alternate, Bro. J. D. Hamner.

Missionary Sermon by Bro. D. O. Baird; alternate, Bro. G. W. Kerr.

Doctrinal Sermon by Bro. W. L. White. Subject—What is a New Testament Church, and its distinction from other Christian organizations?

By invitation, the next session of the Association will be held with Shiloh Church, Greene County, Alabama, beginning on Tuesday before the first Sunday in September, 1899, and continuing three days.

Respectfully submitted. U. E. Allen, Chairman.
E. M. Bealle,
J. M. Goodson.

Report on Documents was submitted by Bro. J. D. Ray and adopted.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee, submit the following report:

We find the Church Letters all in good shape, owing to the printed form that was used. We recommend the continued use of these forms by the churches.

We find that Hickory Grove Church has licensed Brethren J. W. Wright and R. J O'Briant, Unity has ordained Bro. W. P Peden and Shiloh Bro. Jas. D. Ray to the full work of the gospel ministry.

We find that the spiritual condition of a few of our churches is not what we would desire, while many have had gracious revivals with several additions. Jas. D. Ray, Chairman.

Moderator announced Standing Committees.

LIST OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

State Missions—Elder D. O. Baird, Elder G. W. Kerr and Jno. A. Pearson.

Home Missions—Elder Hix B. Chappell, J. M. Smith and S. S. Thornton.

Foreign Missions—Robert H. Foster, John Upchurch and H. S. Thornton.

Religious Literature—Elder W. P. Peden, J. P. Barnett and Elder J. D. Hamner.

Orphanage—Grant Taylor, C. D. Harper and Hix B. Chappell, Jr.

Temperance—W. C. Mayes, A. L. Hildreth and P. H. Howard.

Education—M. L. Stansel, Elder J. D. Ray and J. T. Keating.

Bible and Colportage—John H. Stinson, E. M. Bealle and W. P. Owings.

Sunday Schools—M. B. Curry, J. T. McShan and I. M. Noland.

Order of Business—The Clerk and Moderator.

Woman's Work—Elder W. L. White, M. L. Stansel and C. W. Fort.

B. Y. P. U.—Elder D. O. Baird, W. C. Mayes and E. M. Bealle.

Bro. J. H. Curry preached the Doctrinal Sermon. Subject—"Conditions of Discipleship." At 11 a. m. Text Matthew 16:24.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Moderator conducted devotional exercises.

Under miscellaneous business, J. H. Stinson submitted report on recommendation from Second District as to change of time of meetings of all the districts, and after discussion by J. H. Stinson, D. O. Baird, W. C. Mayes and H. B. Chappell, it was adopted.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DISTRICTS.

Brother Moderator:

Your Committee to whom was referred the resolution from the Second District respecting the matter of changing the time of holding the district meetings to the fifth Sunday, and Friday and Saturday before, respectfully recommend the adoption of said resolution, to take effect at once; the First District to convene Friday before the first fifth Sunday, the Second District to convene Friday before the second fifth Sunday, the Third District to convene Friday before the third fifth Sunday, and the Fourth District to convene Friday before the fourth fifth Sunday.

J. H. STINSON, Chairman.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE.

Resolved, that any member of this Association attending any other Baptist Association is hereby appointed to act as corresponding messenger to said Association.

W. L. White was elected delegate and D. O. Baird alternate to the Southern Baptist Convention.

G. W. Kerr, E. M. Bealle, H. B. Chappell, W. G. Robertson, J. D. Ray and M. B. Curry were elected delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

Report on Apportionment was read by J. T. McShan and adopted.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

1	Bethlehem	$10 00	20	Enon	20 00
2	Liberty	10 00	21	Mt. Zion	6 00
3	Fellowship	9 00	22	Prairie	20 00
4	Spring Hill (Lamar)	14 00	23	Shiloh	15 00
5	Millport	10 00	24	Bethel	56 00
6	Kennedy	20 00	25	Mt. Pleasant	10 00
7	New Salem	5 00	26	Beulah	50 00
8	Arbor Springs	12 00	27	New Hope	20 00
9	Mineral Springs	12 00	28	Forest	25 00
10	Spring Hill	14 00	29	Zion	4 00
11	Hebron	10 00	30	Flat Woods	5 00
12	Big Creek	15 00	31	Cornelius Chapel	3 00
13	Cross Roads	7 00	32	Chalcedony	5 00
14	Hickory Grove	6 00	33	Grant's Creek	50 00
15	Union Center	10 00	34	Pleasant Grove	5 00
16	Pickensville	30 00	35	McBee	5 00
17	Carrollton	50 00	36	Oak Ridge	5 00
18	Ebenezer	10 00			
19	Unity	15 00		Total	$573 00

J. T. McSHAN, Chairman.

Report of Finance Committee was read and adopted.

(See report on last page of pamphlet.)

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

The following resolution was submitted by W. L. White and adopted.

Resolved, that an Executive Committee be appointed to take into consideration the suggestion made in the State Mission report concerning the destitution along the new railroad, and in conjunction with the State Secretary to supply said destitution as they in their wisdom see best. The committee to consist of one member from each District, and the Moderator and Clerk at large.

The Moderator allowed each District to name a member. The following is the committee: First District, J. F. Hodge; Second District, J. A. Pearson; Third District, M. B. Curry; Fourth District, S. S. Thornton.

Bro. E. M. Bealle offered the following:

Resolved, 1st. That we request the pastors to try to organize a B. Y. P. U. in every church in this Association.

2nd. That the Moderator appoint a Standing Committee on B. Y. P. U. work to report to this body at its next session.

Bro. J. F. Hodge offered the following:

Resolved, that this Association return its heartfelt thanks to the church at Carrollton, and to the good people of the town and community, for their kindness and Christian hospitality extended during the session of this body, and to the M. E. Church for the offer of the use of their house of worship.

Bro. H. B. Chappell, Sr., submitted the following:

Resolved, that a committee be appointed in accordance with our Constitution to examine into the cause of the failure of Pleasant Grove, McBee and Oak Ridge Churches to be represented in this Association for two years past.

Moderator appointed committee as follows: Elder H. B. Chappell, J. H. Stinson and Elder D. O. Baird.

It was moved by Elder H. B. Chappell that the Clerk superintend the printing of the minutes. and he to receive $15.00 for his services.

On motion, Association adjourned with prayer by Bro. Grant Taylor, to meet with Shiloh Church Tuesday before the first Sunday in September, 1899.

W. G. Robertson, Moderator.

W. L. White, Clerk.

Treasurer's Report.

W. L. White, Treasurer, in account with Union Association:

To cash received from Finance Committee	$69 01	
" " " pub. Col. Missions	10 22	
" " " " " Min. Ed	6 60	
		$85 83
Cr.		
By amount paid W. C. Bledsoe, Secretary	$10 22	
" " Min. Board	6 60	
" " Printing Minutes.	30 00	
" " Clerk's services	15 00	
" " State Missions	4 55	
" " Orphanage	10 55	
" " Min. Ed. Board.	8 56	
" " Postage and money order fees.	35	
		$85 83

Synopsis of the Sunday School Convention.

—o—

The 30th Annual Session of the Sunday School Convention of the Union Baptist Association was held with Beulah Church, Greene County, Ala., July 29th, 30th and 31st, 1898.

Only seven Sunday Schools were represented, viz: Unity, Prairie, Shiloh, Bethel, Sylvan, Beulah and Forest.

After enrolling delegates, the Convention was organized by electing S. S. Thornton President and W. C. Mayes Secretary and Treasurer.

Order of Business, as prepared by secretary, adopted.

Query No. 1, "What shall be done to interest church members in Sunday School work," was discussed by J. H. Curry, E. M. Bealle, W. C. Mayes, W. P. Peden and J. D. Ray

Under miscellaneous business, a motion was made to sever the Convention from the Association, owing to the indifference and lack of interest of the churches in the work, and organize a Sunday School Convention of the Third and Fourth Districts. The motion, after discussion, was referred to a committee consisting of Brethren Graves White and J H. Curry. The committee made the following report:

Resolved, that we petition the Association at its next meeting to consider the advisability of holding our Sunday School Convention at the same time and place as the Association, or whatever else in the wisdom of the Association will increase the usefulness and attendance of the Convention.

J. R. G. White, Chairman.

Reports of Committees read and adopted.

Next meeting to be held with Fellowship Church, Pickens County, Friday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1899, and continue three days.

Convention Sermon by Rev. G. W. Kerr.

Missionary Sermon by Rev. W. L. White.

QUERIES AND ESSAYS.

1st—Wanted, more spirituality in the Sunday School work. Opened by W. L. White.

2nd—Christ, the model teacher. Opened by W. C. Mayes.

3rd—The Sunday School for all ages, classes and conditions. Opened by M. B. Curry.

4th—The best method of taking collections. Opened by G. W. Kerr.

5th—Resolved, That the religious education of our young people is keeping pace with the secular education. H. B. Durrett, affirmative; J. D. Ray, negative.

Essay—"Sunday School Work." by Miss Sudie Daffron.

REPORT OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

To amount balance from last year	$23 46	
" by Finance Committee	3 55	
" cash collection	5 06	
		$32 07
CR.		
By literature, Olney Sunday School	$ 2 16	
" postage	76	
" stationery	35	
" printing	3 25	
		$ 6 52
Amount on hand		$25 55

W. C. Mayes, Treasurer.

The report on Documents elicited the fact that only two churches out of thirty-six were represented by delegation and three by letters; twelve conversions out of two hundred and sixty three pupils during the conventional year; that the attendance on the Convention had been on the decline for several years; and that the representation has come from the Third and Fourth Districts.

W. P. Peden, Chairman.

Sunday morning Sunday School mass-meeting, conducted by J. D. Ray.

11 a. m. Missionary Sermon by J. H. Curry.

S. S. Thornton, President.

W. C. Mayes, Secretary.

List of Ordained Ministers in this Association with Their Post Offices.

D. O. Baird,	Coalfire,	Pickens	County,	Alabama.
W. J. Beatty,	Kennedy,	Lamar	"	"
H. B. Chappell.	Dillburgh,	Pickens	"	"
J. A Estes,	Steenston,	Lowndes	"	Mississippi.
W. A. Estes,	Palmetto,	Pickens	"	Alabama.
J. D. Hamner,	Romulus,	Tuscaloosa	"	"
T. K. Harrison,	Pleas. Grove,	Pickens	"	"
G. W. Kerr,	Reform,	"	"	"
J. P Lee,	Columbus,	Lowndes	"	Mississippi.
W. P. Peden,	Olney,	Pickens	"	Alabama.
J. D. Ray,	Boom,	Tuscaloosa	"	"
J. L. Ray,	"	"	"	"
J. B. Small,	Reform,	Pickens	"	"
W. L. White,	Pickensville,	"	"	"
O. E. Wooten.	Gentry,	Lamar	"	"

Statistics of the Union Baptist Association.

Churches	Increase by: Baptism	Letter	Statement	Restoration	Decrease by: Letter	Exclusion	Erasure	Death	Total Membership	Value of Church Property.	Day of Meeting.	Name of Pastor.	Post Offices.	Clerks.	Post Offices.
Arbor Springs	9	1			8				84	$ 300	2nd Sunday	D O Baird	Coalfire, Ala.	A C Richardson	Reform, Ala.
Bethlehem	1	2			3	1	3	1	81	300	3rd "	"	"	W P Huff	Vasser, "
Bethel		1			1	2	2	5	196	900	4th "	J H Curry	Northport, "	A V Taylor	Hickman, "
Beulah	4				2			6	175	1,200	1st "	J D Cook	Clinton, "	E W Henderson	Knoxville, "
Big Creek	1	2			9			1	64		4th "	W L White	Pickensville, "	J T Allen	Carrollton, "
Carrollton		6			5				51	2,000	4th "	"	"	M B Curry	" "
Chalcedony	1	2			1				32	175	2nd "	T K Harrison	Raleigh, "	T M Pate	Northport, "
Cross Roads	13	1			5	2	9		48		3rd "	G W Kerr	Reform, "	J S Adams	Carrollton, "
Cornelius Chapel						52			57		4th "	J H M Anders	Coker, "	D W Hamner	Romulus, "
Ebenezer	18	8				5		1	75		3rd "	S E Hodge	Umphreys, "	W T Hardy	Byars, "
Enon		1	1						44	900	3rd "	W L White	Pickensville, "	T H Sanders	Garden, "
Fellowship												J B Small	Reform, "		
Flat Woods		1			1	1	1		47	40	3rd "	J H M Anders	Coker, "	T J Burks	Raleigh, "
Forest	6	5						1	100		1st "	J W Caldwell	Dillburgh, "	John Upchurch	Benevola, "
Grant's Creek	24	4		1	2			3	125	1,000	2nd "	J H Curry	Northport, "	R H Foster	Sylvan, "
Hebron		1						1	49		3rd "	H B Chappell	Dillburgh, "	J A Pearson	Carrollton, "
Hickory Grove	10	8			2				57		3rd "	O E Wooten	Gentry, "	J A Stimpson	Stafford, "
Kennedy	1	1			4	5			31	500	1st "	D O Baird	Coalfire, "	W H Smothers	Kennedy, "
Liberty	3				2	1			83		4th "	"	"	S P Sloan	Reform, "
McBee															
Millport	2	1							30	300	1st "	"	"	G S Keenum	Millport, "
Mineral Springs		1			3		1	10	52	400	1st "	J A Estes	Steenston, Miss.	J D Manning	Carlotta, "
Mt. Pleasant	1	1			11	1		1	46		1st "	J H M Anders	Coker, Ala.	W W Hall	Gordo, "
Mt. Zion					7				35		3rd "	W P Peden	Olney, "	I W Colvin	Bethany, "
New Hope	3				2			1		300	4th "	G W Kerr	Reform, "	G W Pool	Romulus, "
New Salem	1	6				1		2	29		4th "	W J Beatty	Kennedy, "	J M Pratt	Reform, "
Oak Grove															
Pickensville		6						1	36	2,000	1st "	W L White	Pickensville, "	W C Long	Pickensville, "
Pleasant Grove															
Prairie		7	2	2					70	800	2nd "	J D Cook	Clinton, "	M B Taylor	West Greene, "
Shiloh		2			2	2			96	500	2nd "	J D Hamner	Romulus "	W C McCracken	Boom, "
Spring Hill, L. C	10	5		1	4			2	138	400	2nd "	J A Estes	Steenston, Miss.	L C Coleman	Gentry, "
Spring Hill, P. C	3	1						1	49	700	4th "	J W Caldwell	Dillburgh, Ala.	T P Harper	Archer, "
Unity	1				2	3		3	65	1,000	3rd "	"	"	W W Maughan	Olney, "
Union Center		9							18		1st "	G W Kerr	Reform, "	Z J Hall	Carrollton, "
Zion		5							33	50	1st "	T K Harrison	Raleigh, "	Merk Pate	Raleigh, "
Total	112	88	3	4	76	26	16	40	2096						

Financial Exhibit of Union Baptist Association for Year 1898.

CHURCHES	State Missions Cash	State Missions Voucher	Home Missions Cash	Home Missions Voucher	Foreign Miss'n Cash	Foreign Miss'n Voucher	General Fund Cash	General Fund Voucher	Associational Cash	Bible and Colportage—Cash	Ministerial Education—Cash	Ministerial Ed. Voucher	Orphans Home Cash	Orphans Home Voucher	Minutes	Totals
Bethlehem	$1 00										6 06				1 00	$ 2 00
Liberty													2 90		1 00	9 96
Fellowship																
Spring Hill, L. C	1 75			1 80					50				3 00		1 50	8 55
Millport									50						1 00	1 50
Kennedy	4 05															5 05
New Salem	1 50		1 00						50				1 50		75	4 75
Arbor Springs	5 14														1 50	6 64
Mineral Springs	1 50							5 25	50						1 50	8 75
Spring Hill, P. C			5 50						75						75	7 00
Hebron	3 10								50						75	4 10
Big Creek	2 25						4 75		1 00			5 00			2 00	13 75
Cross Roads									50							6 05
Hickory Grove	1 75								25			30	2 15		75	3 15
Mt. Pleasant					3 90										75	5 05
Pickenstville	2 10			3 30		5 10		1 00	35			2 15			75	3 35
Carrollton	3 45			11 43		8 82		17 68	1 00	4 15		8 82		25 63	2 00	61 57
Ebenezer	7 00								25			2 15		2 25	1 75	8 64
Unity	60			1 80		1 72			50	7 38		4 80	1 00	1 00	1 00	7 00
Enon	1 75								75					4 15	1 00	4 15
Mt. Zion	2 91		45					7 00				39		1 00	1 00	52 11
Prairie	1 00	1 90		2 42		19 90						3 35		5 37	1 00	2 55
Shiloh	4 25				83										80	34 03
Bethel			2 00			29 50						6 50		4 15	50	75
Beulah	1 75			3 12											75	6 25
New Hope				1 45		31 43			1 10			10 81	1 50	1 90	2 00	32 11
Forest	1 00					17 00		10 15	50			4 95	2 00	5 37	1 00	39 27
Zion	2 55								50			5 00			1 50	18 15
Flat Woods									25						2 00	2 00
Cornelius Chapel	50								50		2 50				75	7 55
Grant's Creek									35						50	1 50
Chalcedony	10 50							7 00	1 00	13 86		6 50		4 15	2 00	1 10
Union Centre	84		83						50						75	77 76
2nd District	3 00		2 00												50	3 75
1st District	4 50															6 00
Coll'ns at Ass'n	3 47															4 50
	10 22										6 60					3 47
Total	$74 85	$34 06	$7 85	$26 97	$8 53	$113 36	$84 75	$40 66	$15 05	$25 59	$15 16	$51 98	$10 55	$39 98	$34 50	$474 02

Addenda to Report of Finance Committee:

Total Cash	$131 94	
Cash accounted for	129 85	
Cash unaccounted for		$ 2 09
Paid Bro. Bledsoe		62 93
Cash paid Treasurer		69 01
Total as above		$131 94

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. STINSON,
J. W. COX, - Committee.
J. M. SMITH,